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Mr. JAMES ELLIOTT is authorized to receive and receipt for subscriptions and advertisements for the Daily and the Weekly National Era, in Cincin-

WASHINGTON, D. C.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1854.

In an article yesterday, on "Protes ant and Catholic Schools," we referred to a literary notice, which was crowded over till

THE ISSUE.

The Washington Sentinel quotes the following paragraph from the Address of the Independent Democratic members of Congress, as defining the precise ground of opposition to the Nebraska Bill in its present form :

"We believe no permanent adjustment of that question possible, except by a return to that original policy of the fathers of the Republic, by which Slavery was restricted within State limits, and Freedom, without exception or limitation, was to be secured to every person outside of State limits, and under the exclusive justice of the control of the exclusive processing the control of the exclusive processing the exclus

This paragraph may be considered, first, as asserting a fact—that it was the original poli-cy of the fathers of the Republic, that "Slavery should be restricted within State limits, and Freedom be secured to every person outside of State limits, and under the exclusive jurisdiction of the General Government."

The Sentinel denies this, and attempts to disprove it by several considerations. We congratulate that journal upon its attempt to argue the real issue between the Pro-Slavery and Anti-Slavery men. True, its logic is not compact, and its argument is verbose and declamatory; but as it means to be argumentative, it deserves some attention.

In disproof of the assertion in the Address it refers to the provisions of the Constitution in relation to the foreign slave trade, and to fugitives from service or labor, and the existence of Slavery among the Indian tribes.

"Does the assertion of the Address," it asks, "find countenance and support in the fact, that 'the fathers of the Republic' made the most careful provision to secure Slavery 'outside State limits,' by giving their sanction, countenance, and the national protection, to those ancestors of the present Free Soil party to make Slavery 'outside State limits,' and to bring them in these 'State limits,' and to bring them in these 'State limits,' as slaves? The national flag, carrying with it 'the exclusive jurisdiction of the General Government,' waved its folds with sure protection over the decks of those vessels in which were those fathers from whose loins sprang the present Free Soil party, in their work of charity, in buying, capturing, and transporting slaves, Does the assertion of the Address," it asks. buying, capturing, and transporting slaves from without 'State limits,' acting, according to the denunciations of their Free Soil chil dren, 'the pimps and panders' to the more judicious slaveholder at home. The national flag, emblazoned with 'the exclusive jurisdic-tion of the General Government,' secured tion of the General Government,' 'secured Slavery, without exception or limitation,' to every negro 'outside of State limits,' who should fall into the hands of these 'ancestral pimps and panders' to the home purchasers of alaves. This was the 'policy of the fathers of the Republic,' as it was the 'practice' of the fathers of the Free Soil party.'

Aside from the flummery of this paragraph the point of the argument is this-that the foreign slave trade was sanctioned, countenanced, and protected, by the Federal Govern-ment, from the organization of the Constitu-tion down to the year 1808—therefore it was to secure Freedom to every person outside of State limits, and under the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government. A simple statement of facts will show the fallacy of this

Under the Congress of the Confederation, the States had the power to regulate their trade with foreign nations. They levied imposts or duties, just as they pleased, provided they did not interfere "with any stipulation of ties, entered into by Congress with any King Prince, or State, in pursuance of any treaties already proposed by Congress to the Courts of France and Spain;" and the United States were prohibited from any act or treaty "whereby the legislative power of the respective States shall be restrained from imposing such imposts or duties on foreigners as their own people are subjected to, or from prohibiting the exportation or importation of any spe-cies of goods or merchandise whatsoever." They might tolerate or forbid the trade in slaves; allow or prohibit the migration or importation of any class of persons from abroad.

Constitution, the power to regulate trade with foreign nations, after much deliberation, was transferred from the States to the United States; and it was the strong desire of the majority of the delegates, including those from Virginia and Maryland, to surrender to the United States the entire power over the migration or importation of persons from abroad.

This was strenuously resisted by South Caroline and Georgia, until at last a Compromise was proposed, which was sustained by delegates from the Eastern States, investing Congress with the power to pass navigation laws by a simple majority, and with the power to prohibit in the year 1808, the migration or imon of such persons as the original States might think proper to admit prior to that time, and meanwhile to impose a tax on such

on, not exceeding ten dollars a head. Before the adoption of the Federal Contitution, then, the United Stafes had no power over the Slave trade. By the adoption of the Constitution, after a hard struggle, springing from the jealousy of South Carolina of the Federal power, the United States were invested with the authority to prohibit that trade in the year 1808, and to discourage it before that period. As a matter of fact, the power to discourage it was exercised the moment the new Govern-ment went into operation; by the year 1798, all the States had laws in force prohibiting the trade absolutely, and an act of Congress im posed the severest penalties for the infraction of those laws; and in 1808, so soon as the ion allowed, the United States enacted their famous law for the total suppression of

not the policy "of the fathers of the republic" to "give their sanction, countenance, and the national protection" to the slave trade. Through the voluntary act of the master, and the policy "of the fathers of the republic "of the republi

The Sentinel misrepresents the truth of history, and grossly libels their character. They secured by the Federal Constitution a power for Congress, to abolish the slave traffic, which it had never before possessed; and that this power could not be exercised till the year 1808, was the result of circumstances which they could not control, and proves nothing against the truth of the declaration of the Ad dress, that their original policy was to secure freedom to every person "outside of State limits and within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government."

(Be it remembered here, that slaves imported into the State, prior to the year 1808, were not " within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government.")

The Sentinel follows up its fallacious statement, with an assertion, which we are glad to see made so boldly, as follows:

"And now, if a cargo of these 'chattels' be shipped at a port within State limits, and the 'floating territory' upon which they stand moves to the ocean, 'outside of State limits,' and bearing the flag, the evidence of the 'exclusive jurisdiction of the General Government,' they continue chattels, solely and exclusive by winting of that ways 'evelusive clusively by virtue of that very 'exclusive jurisdiction of the General Government, which this Free Soil party alleges 'secures freedom' emphatically. In both the former cases, it is the 'exclusive jurisdiction of the G the 'exclusive jurisdiction of the General Gov ernment' alone, which secures slavery on board

this 'floating territory. Mark-the Sentinel speaks of slaves as i they were named and treated in the Federa Constitution as chattels, or subjects of merchandise. He has no authority for this. Slaves are never mentioned or regarded in the Constitution as property. No provision in relation to them implies that they are property. There s not a word in that instrument which can be tortured into giving countenance to such an ides. If there be, produce it. Give us the article, the section, the clause. Stop your declamation, and submit the proof of your assumption. Repeatedly have the pro-slavery men been challenged on this point, but never have they responded. We defy the Sentinel to quote a single clause of the Federal Constitution au thorizing it to regard or name slaves as chattels or property, when discussing their rela-tions to the Federal Government.

But, let us examine its bold averment. It is that "slaves shipped at a port within State limits," and carried in an American vessel out upon the ocean, "outside of State limits," are not held as chattels in virtue of any State law, but only "in virtue of the exclusive jurisdiction of the General Government."

We thank the Sentinel for the important ad mission it makes. It involves a principle, fundamental in the creed of Independent Democracy-a principle of Natural Law, recognised and respected in the Constitution of the United States. That Principle is, that Slavery, being against Natural Right, exists only as the creature of force, embodied in or recognised by positive statute, which has no operation beyond the jurisdiction of the Legislature enacting it. On this Principle, a slave escaping from one sovereign nation into another, is exempt from reglamation. An attempt to seize him and carry him back to the place whence he fled would be not only an outrage on his right, but an affront to the sovereignty of the nation in which he has found refuge.

On this Principle a slave escaping from Vir reclamation and seizure, but for a positive stipulation in the Federal Constitution in relation tucky into Ohio, or permitted by him to go there, sons escaping from service in one State into another, where such service is not recognisedand not embracing persons held to service in one State, and placed by the voluntary act of servant girl. their masters in another. On this Principle, slaves shipped at Norfolk, Virginia, carried in an American vessel, on the ocean, outside of State limits, by the voluntary act of their masters cease to be slaves, because, as the Sentinel admits, State jurisdiction does not extend beyond State limits-the laws of Virginia have no ex-

tra-territorial force. But, at this point, the Sentinel meets us with he assertion, that such slaves, the moment they are carried "outside of State limits," are held as "chattels," in virtue of the exclusive jurisdiction of the General Government-"it is the exclusive jurisdiction of the Federal Government alone which secures Slavery on board this floating territory."

Has the Sentinel analyzed the bearings this assumption ? Is it willing to abide by its consequences, admitting for the sake of argument that it is true? If it be true, what becomes of the Sentinel's favorite policy of Non-Intervention by Congress in relation to Slave ry? The General Government is a slavehold-er—the People of the United States, whose agent it is, are slaveholders. The General Government and the People of the free States are habitually guilty of Intervention in regard to Slavery, which the Sentinel and its pro-Slavery associates insist should be entirely with-drawn from Federal action! This is not all. If the General Government can intervene in behalf of Slavery, it can intervene against it. If intervention by the General Government alone secures Slavery on board of American vessels, carrying slaves on the high seas from one slaveholding port to another, then, if withdrawn, Slavery ceases, and the slaves are free; and that it ought to be withdrawn, the advocates of the policy of Non-Intervention are bound to admit. If they will not do this, if they will insist that the Federal Government should continue that Intervention, by which alone Slavery is secured in American vessels on the high seas, with what consistency or decency can they denounce as unconstitutional the poli-cy of Intervention by the Government, when it is directed to prohibit Slavery on land belonging to the United States?

The question arises, Is the assumption true? The only provision in the Constitution of the United States which has ever been claimed to apply to slaves "outside of State limits," is the clause relating to fugitives from service or later with our civil institutions, to employ milibor. This applies, as we have said, only to futery men on our public works," consists of bor. This applies, as we have said, only to fu-gitives, and to fugitives escaping from one State through the voluntary act of the master, sud Carolina

sent out upon the high seas, beyond State limits. If there be any constitu virtue of which slaves so shipped are held as such on the high seas, let the Sentinel point it out. Even the attempt to do this has never yet been made.

We are obliged to defer the rest of the argu-

For the National Era KOSSUTH IN LONDON.* BY ISAAC H. JULIAN.

Lingering in London, Hungary's sad Chief, True in the trial as the triumph hour Mightier Prometheus of a greater grief,

Where heedless flows the tide of common life. Save a few friends, the partners of his woes, The envenomed slander, or the assassin's knife Only may mar his love, constrained repose.

With only Hope to comfort or allay A homeless exile, yet a Nation's care Rests on his steadfast mind from day to day

Yet is he firm, as only Right is firm ; A veteran in Virtue's changeful war; Still throbs his heart with its high purpose warm, And still his "watchings weary every star."

Alone with God, or "'mid the city full," He ponders Universal Freedom still, With fervid soul Misfortune cannot dull, Hope and Devotion bearing up the Will! And hence it is, though lost to action thus, That tyrants four his name the world a round

And hence it is that name is glorious, Shrined in the People's heart of hearts profound That Hungary feels it course through all her veins That Europe owns it as a household word— That great Columbia, through her wide domains,

Feels by it Freedom's latent pulses stirred. searce can brook the idle jars of Earth; Her sordid tumults grate upon my ear; I deem her prate of Freedom little worth While her true prophet pines forsaken here

Scourged by oppression, fettered and betrayed, Hath Europe, then, no need of such a man Still will she scorn her best deliverer's aid, While all her tyrants hold him under ban

Oh, righteous Heaven! we invoke the day, When, as his voice thrilled over land and sea His sword may flash avenging Freedon's way, A beacon to the world of Liberty

* Written last autumn, while he yet semained there

REVIEWS

HELEN MULGRAVE, OR JESUIT EXECUTORSHIP. l vol. Pp. 312. Published by De Witt & Daven-port, Nassau street, New York. Sold by Gray & Ballautyne, Washington.

Seldom have we read a work of such absorbing interest, describing, as it does, the process by which a young inquiring mind is led to cast off the formula of the Catholic faith, in which it was trained, and the persecutions to which it is in consequence subjected, extending through every relation of life.

The book contains many truths of vital im

THE CONVENT AND THE MANSE. By Hyla. Be ton : John P. Jewett & Co. Cleaveland : Jewett, Proctor, & Worthington. Sold by Gray & Ballan-tyne, Washington. 1 vol. Pp. 242.

We are here presented with a delightful pi ture of a clergyman's home—a home where intelligent industry presides, and governed by ginia into New York would be secure against as mountain winds to gush forth in loving words and deeds, or in merry play with the happy spirits that surround it-a little heaven : ciple, a slave carried by his master from Ken- it comes as a ministering angel to turn the thoughts more trustingly upward, and make cannot be reclaimed or seized as a slave, the said stipulation being confined expressly to pergyman's wife, and her own home sat for the portrait. If so, we envy its inmates, one and all-from the happy husband down to the Irish

In strong contrast is presented the life of convent, where the glad gushings of the heart of youth are represented as fettered by unnat-ural restrictions. The author arraigns those parents who, to gratify a selfish ambition, and gain political influence, send their daughters away from free and happy homes, where they have been tenderly reared by the hand of maternal love, and shut them up within gloomy walls, where, he says, they are subject to the artful persuasions and insidious teachings of Jesuits and Sisters, miscalled of Mercy. He holds that forbidden to think, to judge, to act for themselves, it is impossible that their minds should be as thoroughly disciplined as in schools where free discussion and inquiry are encouraged; and hence that they the more readily receive the specious falsehoods and complicated dogmas taught them for truth. To believe and obey is their duty, and not to reason and reflect. Consequently, they soon learn to consider their parents heretics, and in the end fall into the arms of " Holy Mother Church."

LIBERAL FEELINGS AT WHEELING, VA .- We learn that Mr. Greeley, of the New York Tribune, who lectured at Wheeling a few evenings since, created some sensation, if not by his lecture, at least by the simple fact of his pres-

lecture, at least by the simple fact of his presence. The Wheeling Times says of him:

"No man regretted more than we did the accidental advent of Horace Greeley to our city, and no one has a more abiding dislike of every act with which he has been connected than we. He is a disorganizer of the worst order, the advocate of the worst isms ever invented in any country, opposed to the Union, and possessed of no one characteristic, excepting energy and intellect, which is congenial to us and to Virginia. We did not hear him, did not even notice the fact that he spoke here, and sincerely hope that he may never again darken notice the fact that he spoke here, and neerely hope that he may never again darki our soil with his presence. His lecture, we are, was an able one, and purely literary, ad we are well assured that his usual current I lectures would not have been tolerated for a instant by his auditory."

Bah, Mr. Times! Don't betray your folly so freely; the world will discover it in good time without any direct efforts on your part to

THE COMMITTEE of the House of Representatives appointed to inquire "how far it Messrs. Stanton, of Kentucky, chairman; Dayato another. Of course, it has nothing can son, of Pennsylvania; Dickerson, of Massa-

EXTRACTS FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

ST. Louis, Feb. 7, 1854. Sr. Louis, Feb. 7, 1854.

I have clipped a short article from the Evening News, to show you how we stand here on the Nebraska question. With only one exception, the press in St. Louis is opposed to Douglas's bill, or in any way disturbing the Missouri Compromise. If the Poople are aroused in time, the bill cannot pass. I believe that the only friends of the bill here are the revilers of Col. Benton, and they favor it more out of hatred to him than from any other cause, presuming that he will cast his influence against it.

MARTIN'S FERRY, O., Feb. 8, 1854. A patition against the pro-slavery clause of the Nebraska bill, now before Congress, is circulating and obtaining the signatures of almost all to whom it is offered; but the people everywhere feel much more than they express upon this subject. So little has heretofore been effected in staying the encroachments of Slavery by public meetings and petitions, that a strong determination is felt by many to make themselves heard in a more effectual manner. If any of Ohio's representatives are so lost to virselves heard in a more effectual manner. It any of Ohio's representatives are so lost to virtue and honor as to be willing to sustain that odious clause in the bill, let them count the cost. Their reward will be political death, and a name hereafter that their descendants will blush to own, or I am no prophet. And let the South beware, lest they find that, contrary to all former indications, the North has yet a conscience, and a deep seated abhorrence of oppression, sumbering though it has been beneath the obscurity of a misguided and mistaken selfishness. When conscience, the love of liberty, and the omnipotent dollar, are on one ken selfishass. When conscience, the love of liberty, and the omnipotent dollar, are on one side, they may awake and shake from their limbs the fetters that Slavery has hung about them to retard their progress.

LEE. MAINE. Feb. 8, 1854. I am glad you give so much attention to Nebraska question. The people are waking up. I have not found a Whig or Democrat who is not opposed to Douglas's bill.

For the National Era. THE LEGAL TENURE OF SLAVERY. LETTER X

COLONIAL AND SUBSEQUENT LEGISLATION ALIZE SLAVERY-TESTI-HOLDING JURISTS. CONCLUDED.

To the Friends of American Liberty: To the Friends of American Liberty:

The language and the course of Judge Matthews may remind one of an expression used by the celebrated Dr. Hopkins, who, in his writings, charges the magistrates with "conniving at the practice" of slaveholding. This meaning is evident from the consideration that magistrates are never said to "connive" at what is legal. Dr. Hopkins expresses himself in accordance with this, when he says, further, that our modern Slavery differs from the ancient, as being "without the express sanction of civil Government."* Judge Matthews cannot

*History of Slavery and Anti-Slavery, p. 76, be cleared from the charge of "conniving" at the practice, though he had too much intelligence and decency to pronounce it legal.

In the case of Hudgins vs. Wright, November term, 1806, the Court said: "The Slavery of the African negro has existed from the time of bringing them into the colony. In many of the States, express enactments have been made, declaring them slaves; in others, they are slaves by CUSTOM."—1. Henry and Munford's Virginia reports, 139; Wheeler's Law of Slavery, p. 12; Goodell's American Slave Code, p. 263.

This falls short of affirming the legality of Slavery in any of the States, and amounts to

This falls short of affirming the legality of Slavery in any of the States, and amounts to an implication that it is not legal in some of them. No one doubts that Slavery has existed from the period specified. So has petty larceny and many other unlawful practices. And the "express enactments" alluded to are not shown, nor even affirmed, to have been valid. "In other (States) they are slaves by custom," that is, without the existence of "express statutes" or positive law; and, consequently, their Slavery is illegal.

their Slavery is illegal.

In the case of Hall vs. Mullen, June Term, 1821, Judge Johnson said: "But the condition and rights of slaves in this State depend not exclusively on the civil or feudal law, but may, perhaps, rest upon both; subject, nevertheless, to such changes in their condition, &c., as the laws of the State may prescribe"—5 Har. & John's Maryland Reports, 190; Wheeler, pp. 10, 11; Slave Code, p. 264.

Here, again, we see an anxious and unsatis-ctory search after the legal foundations and origin of Slavery. No mention is made of "municipal law"—"the laws of the State"—
as having originated or legalized the relation, but only as regulating and changing its incidents. The Judge knew better than to attempt but only as regulating and changing its incidents. The Judge knew better than to attempt citing either the Statutes or the Constitution of Maryland, for the origin or legality of Maryland Slavery; so he goes back to the old (Roman) civil law, and to the feudal law, (once existing in Europe, but never in America) for their origin. Nothing of "local, municipal, positive law," can be predicated of these; and, consequently, nothing that could legalize Slavery, "the creature ONLY of municipal law. After all, the Judge finds that Slavery cannot "depend exclusively either on the civil or feudal law;" yet he consoles himself with the conjecture, that "perhaps, it may rest, in part, upon both," subject to such legislative regulation as shall prevent the inconvenient definition and limitation of Slavery to those less rigid standards. The legality of Slavery being thus (according to Judge Johnson) involved in doubt and uncertainty, he was bound to decide in favor of liberty, according to the common law maxim, "Whenever the question of liberty ty seems doubtful, the decision must be in favor of liberty."

I shall cite but one instance more. In the case of "The State vs. Waggoner, April Term,

I shall cite but one instance more. In the case of "The State vs. Waggoner, April Term, 1797," the Jud e said: "They (Indians) have so long been recognised as slaves in our law, that it would be as great a violation of the rights of property to establish a contrary decision at the present day, as it would in the case of the Africans, and as useless to investigate the manner in which they originally lost their freedom."—I Halstead's New Jersey Reports, 374—476; Am. Slave Code, p. 265.

In this New Jersey decision, the more liberal and righteous doctrine of the Southern Courts, "that prescription is never pleadable to a claim for freedom," is entirely set aside. Prescription, or length of time, is made the only foundation of Slavery! Nothing is said of statutes, laws, constitutions, compromises, or understandings of any kind—nothing in the shape of "local, municipal, or positive law," in any pos-

THE MAYORALTY OF PHILADELPHIA.—The present Mayor, Gilpin, George M. Dallas, S. Austin Allibone, Major Fritz, N. B. Browne. James F. Johnston, J. C. Montgomery, James Page, and others, have already been named as candidates for this office, the dignity of which has been greatly enhanced by the extension of the city limits. It is to be hoped no party ma-chinery may be applied in this municipal elec-tion. The interests of so great a city are too important to admit of any folly of this kind, ithout the infliction of great injury.

gentleman, the present Chaplain of the House of Representatives, is announced to lecture in New England in the latter part of this month. Mr. Milburn, a New York paper remarks, is one of the most living speakers in the country, and when in New York lately was listened to with pleasure and profit.

MARYLAND SENATOR .- The Hon. James A Pearce was yesterday re-elected a Senator in Congress by the Legislature of Maryland, for the term of six years from the 4th of March, 1855, when his present term of service will expire. The vote was-for Mr. Pearce, 58: Mr. Constable, (Dem.) 35; and scattering, 2.

MASSACHUSETTS ON THE NEBRASKA BILL -The House of Representatives of this State yesterday passed the resolves in opposition to the Nebraska bill, by a vote of 246 yeas to 13 nays, eleven Democrats and two Whigs voting in the negative. So the spirit of justice and of free-dom have not yet been "crushed out" of the freemen of this noble old Commonwealth!

MR. BURLINGAME'S SPEECH ON THE MISSIS-

The following are the closing words of Mr. Burlingame's lecture upon the Valley of the Mississippi, which were received with such favor last Wednesday evening at the Mercantile.

in Boston:

At the time of the adoption of the Constitution, there was not one State in the Valley of the Mississippi; now, more than one third of the States of the Confederacy are there, containing nearly one half of the people of the Republic. Six of them are dedicated to Freedom; six are lost to Slavery. Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee, on the confines of Freedom, may yet cast out the evil. Arkansas, Mississippi, and Louisiana, have a dreary prospect before them. No settler will set his feet in them. Civilization flees their borders, and imagination has filled them with monster Legrees. The slave States, though first settled, linger in the race. They have had political power—they have supplied three Presidents—they have been the adopted homes of the statesmen who have added to the renown of the Republic. They are even now behind in population; and of the thousands of miles of railway built in that Valley, not one fifth of them are within their borders.

way built in that Valley, not one fifth of them are within their borders.

They have expended for these purposes, in round numbers, \$18,000,000 against the sum of \$123,000 000 by the free States. They hold the key points of the Valley, the mouths of the great rivers, and yet the annual product of the free State of Ohio, four years ago, was within a few millions of the annual product of these six States. I would not make invidious comparisons, but I would let the trumpet of Freedom speak in the revelations of the census tables.

The free States, young, crowded into the upper part of the Valley, in all those things which give a people abiding strength are their superiors. These are now the granaries for all lands—they control the mighty commerce of four hundred millions belonging to the West; they supply the twenty thousand men who navigate it; they rejoice in labor, and their valleys glitter with free schools.

igate it; they rejoice in labor, and their valleys glitter with free schools.

The settlers of the Mississippi Valley, chiefly supplied from the Atlantic States, have generally followed the parallels of latitude upon which they were born. There is the Carolinian, ready to fight for his peculiar institution, and, in the language of his Congressman, to "march up to the line of 36 deg. 30 min. with his coffin on his back." There is the haughty Virginian, yet eloquent of the fading glories of the Old Dominion—there is the true son of New England, still proud of the land of his birth. This great Northern hive of New England has swarmed again and again, and from its own, and through the energetic veins of Western New York, has given its sons and its faith to the upper valley of the Mississippi.

The States of the Northwest are bone of her bone and flesh of her flesh. A New England man—John Adams—at the treaty of Paris, by his firmness saved that region to the country: when it was proposed to yield it, he with his Puritan pluck, said No! Rather than do so, he would go home and fight for it as long as he could keep a soldier in the field. It was a New England man who procured the reduction of the price of the public lands, and for this the poor man should bless him; it was a New England policy which dedicated every 16th section of land to school purposes; and above all, a New England man—Nathan Dane, of Beverly, Massachusets—drew up the Ordinance of 1787, excluding Slavery forever from that Territory.

New England men, assembling in this city

nance of 1787, excluding Slavery forever from that Territory.

New England men, assembling in this city to mature their plans, sent forth from the county of Essex, in this State, in the dreary month of December, a little colony, and first settled what is now the great State of Ohio, A New England man was the first Secretary of the Northwest Territory. New England men were its first Judges. They were the controlling element in the Legislature, which, when Virginians petitioned the right to take their slaves into the Territory, unanimously rejected their petition. And now there is a land larger than the Northwest Territory—larger than the free States, excluding California—lying under the latitudes of Liberty, blest with the best rains of Heaven, drained by the finest rivers in the world, waiting the advent of one hundred millions of freemen, dedicated to libhundred millions of freemen, dedicated to lib-erty by the plighted faith of patriots from the North and the South; and a New England man, cradled in Vermont, matured in the Northwest under the amiles of Freedom, forgetting the mother that bore him, ungrateful to the land of his adoption, in the Senate of the United States, in the face of the world, with

laws, constitutions, compromises, or understandings of any kind—nothing in the shape of "local, municipal, or positive law." in any possible form. The plain, unvarnished proposition is this: that long-continued practices, whatever they may be, are entitled to protection, and constitute law, unless special statutes abolish them. If this be so, then "legal science," "common law," and so forth, are mere phrases without meaning.

My main object in this letter was to show that there were no statutes creating the relation of Slavery during the colonial period. I have proved more than this, by the testimony of slaveholding jurists themselves, one of whom testifies that there were no such statutes in 1797, and the other, that none could be found in 1817. In the proper place I shall produce further testimony from slaveholding statesmen, and from the Federal Courts, affirming or admitting that no such statutes could be found in 1850 and 1853. But I must first show the illegality of Slayery from considerations and evidences of a different character and earlier date.

WILLIAM GOODELL.

FURTHER ITEMS BY THE AFRICA.

Turkey and Russia.—All accounts concur in stating that Russia is making extensive preparations on the Danube, as also in Asia. Omer Pasha was vigorously engaged in recruiting and strengthening his position. Every opportunity within his reach was embraced for this

purpose.

The Shah of Persia has promised neutrality owards Turkey.

Hungary.—Affairs in this country have been very much agitated. There were indications of insubordination, and apprehensions of an outbreak. Austria is much troubled, and apprehensive of difficulty. The whole tenor of the news is warlike.

France.—Extensive defensive and warlike preparations were still going on. Napoleon is understood, says the Constitutionelle, to be determined upon war, unless the Czar comes to some terms in due time.

England.—The war question is still absorbing all interests, and viewed by the best informed as extremely uncertain. England continues to strengthen her land and naval forces. The imports of breadstuffs into Eng-were large, but the demand almost equa-

numerous, and had led to a large general business at improved prices. The chief transactions were in United States Federal stocks, Pennsylvania bonds, and New Orleans 6 per cent. bonds,

Spain.—The scandals of the Spanish Court have been the theme of gossip for months, and the young Queen has been charged with irregularities such as have rendered Spanish Queens of former times infamous in history. Even the legitimacy of the late Infanta has been doubted, and her death, when a few days old, while it enlarged the sphere of gossip, excited no regret among the people. Indeed, the event was the occasion of displaying about Madrid placards in reference to the Queen, in which there was more truth than decency.

Queen Isabella is indeed fast hurrying into all those excesses, political as well as moral, that usually mark the career of weak women, placed in prominent positions, and infatuated SPAIN .- The scandals of the Spanish Court

placed in prominent positions, and infatuated with a favorite lover. Her improprieties have excited the people. Her ministers and mos devoted servants have remonstrated with her and, having lost the affection of her subjects she attempts to enforce submission and comp allegiance. Accordingly she has exiled Ger allegiance. Accordingly she has exiled Generals Concha and O'Donnell, formerly two of her most faithful Captains General in Cuba, and several others, to whom she is in a great measure indebted for the preservation of her crown. Their offence was their too high sense of morality, and their opposition to the scandalous royal intrigue. No one can suppose that such a high-handed measure can succeed in crushing the rebellious feeling of the people. Isabella the Second is too weak in her own character, and her Government is too destitute of physical as well as moral power, for a coup d'etat to be enduringly successful. Such affairs require the hand of a Napoleon, sustained by a great name and a great army. Without these, the little woman cannot violate ordinary decenrequire the hand of a Napoleon, sustained by a great name and a great army. Without these, the little woman cannot violate ordinary decencies, or insult and outrage statesmen of ability and long service. Such things were scarcely tolerated in the darkest days of Spanish history. They will never do in the nineteenth century, and we shall expect to hear soon of stormy times in Spain.—Philadelphia Ev. Bulletin.

MAINE SENATOR .- Why was Mr. Fees elected? The State of Maine, a Portland print,

"We understand, from unquestionable authority, that the vote in the Legislature of Maine, in the choice of a United States Senator, was very largely influenced by the position of the Nebraska bill, now pending before Congress. In fact, this question very naturally and very properly absorbs or overrides the ordinary topics of party warfare, and is soon to be made the leading question, if not the great question of the day. On this matter Mr. Fessenden was known to occupy no doubtful position, but was heartily and resolutely commit. "We understand, from unquestionable au ted against the breaking up or disturbance of the Missouri Compromise. On the other hand, Mr. Morrill hesitated, or declined to commit

Mr. Chase made in the Senate, yesterday, a most powerful reply to the sophistical plea of Mr. Douglas in favor of admitting Slavery into Nebraska. He thoroughly exposed the novelty of the plan of repealing the Missouri Compromise, and proved conclusively that the arguments of Mr. Douglas were not only of recent invention, and were unknown even to him so invention, and were unknown even to him so invention, and were unknown even to him so late as the 24th of January last, but that all his ideas and all the notions of the Democratic party and the Southern party leaders were, until then, utterly foreign to such a scheme. The historical argument of Mr. Douglas was assailed with equal cogency. We do not remember a speech of greater logical ability and compactness than this, nor one of a more dignified and weighty style. Its effect in setting right the convictions of the public, and lending strength to the antagonism excited by this nefarious plot, cannot but be great and lasting.

N. Y. Tribune, Feb. 4.

triumphant answer to the arguments proby Mr. Douglas on Monday last.

by Mr. Douglas on Monday last.

By far the most numerous audience of the season listened to Mr. Chase's speech. The galleries and lobbies were densely crowded an hour before the debate begun, and the ladies even crowded into, and took possession of, one-half the lobby seats on the floor of the Senatelit is not often that the lobbies are so attractively represented. The entire audience—both of Senators and spectators, with the exception of two or three Senatorial fathers, who have nothing more to learn from mortal men—listened to Mr. Chase's arguments with most profound attention. The crowded galleries and the marked attention indicate one of two things—either that the subject of debate attracts far more of public interest than the authors of the measure profess to believe, or else that people have become more ready to listen to the peculiar views of which Mr. Chase is supposed to be an exponent. I have no doubt the former of these points is the true one, for upon this bill the Senator from Ohio expresses sentiments the Senator from Ohio expresses sentiments which are held by hundreds of thousands who acknowledge no sympathy with his general political position .- Cor. N. Y. Times, Feb. 4.

Phonography. — The merits of this new mode of writing are but little understood in this community. Some, who have heard of it as a means of reporting, suppose that its use fulness is confined to that object alone. But its capacity, as we believe, fits it for use in every department in which writing is needed; and in time it must become (strange as it may seem) the universal mode of recording thought; and for the same reason that the railroad is now so generally used, viz: economy of time and labor.

now so generally used, viz: economy of time and labor.

When compositors, as well as editors and reporters become familiar with this art, so that the type can be set up from the phonographic manuscript, its usefulness will be invaluable. This, we understand, is already the case in the office of the Evangelical Repository, the editor of which has used phonography for several years. This gentleman, who is also pastor of a Presbyterian church, states that his sermons are written exclusively in that hand, and that he has no more difficulty in reading it than in reading the common long hand.

Philadelphia Evening Bulletin.

THE FISHERIES .- Mr. Sabine, of Framin THE FISHERIES.—Mr. Sabine, of Framingham, (Mass.) who has been writing a long document on the subject of the fisheries, has sent an estimate to the Gloucester Telegraph of the cod, mackerel, and herring fisheries of the American seas. The number of American vessels engaged in the business is 3 160; British, 3,775; French, 580. The capital invested is: American, \$3 820 015; British, \$3,900,175; French, \$1,255,000; while the value of the annual products is: American, \$4,018,030; British, \$8,690,000; French, \$1,840,000. Mr. Sabine adds:

Sabine adds:

"It will be seen that, while the 'capital invested' in the British possessions is about the same as in the United States, the value of the annual produce is more than double. I should have guessed at a result something like this before entering upon a calculation, item by item, for the figures agree with my personal observation for a series of years. So much for cheaper colonial vessels; so much for boats instead of vessels; so much for proximity to and ownership of fishing grounds, and the exclusive use of the narrow straits and the shore and boat fisheries."

DESPOTISM .- A private letter from Florence

Despotism.—A private letter from Florence, of the 6th January, says:

"Our Government is rendering itself perfectly ridiculous by its persecution all those who speak in favor of Turkey. Two boys were arrested, some days since, for having given au Oriental salute, by crossing their arms on their breast, and bending their head. The word 'Turkish' has been erased from the signboard of the Turkish Coffee house, and the word 'Coffee-house' remains. Crowds assemble frequently before the house, and laugh immoderately. Several children amuse themselves with wearing a crescent on their breast, to annoy the police."

A letter from Milan, of the 9th January, states that the inhabitants are forbidden to quit their houses, or to walk the streets without a pass from the Prefect of Police; otherwise, they are imprisoned and fed on bread and water.

KENTUCKY SLAVES IN CANADA.-The Rev KENTUCKY SLAVES IN CANADA.—The Rev. H. H. Hawkins, a colored preacher, now residing in Canada, formerly the slave of Gen. Taylor, of Newport, visited this city last week, and while here made some statements that will arrest attention. He states that there are in Canada West four hundred slaves who absoonded frem their masters living in Kentucky, within a distance of one hundred miles from this city. Hawkins himself ran away from Gen. Taylor, but his colored friends here have since purchased his freedom from the heirs of the estate.

There are in Canada thirty five thousand fugitive slaves, who are represented as in a very flourishing condition just now, owing to the high prices paid for labor on the lines of railway building in the Provinces. In the town of Chatham aloae there are seven hundred and thirty fugitives, who are rapidly acquiring property in land. In the new abolition town of Buxton, there are one hundred and thirty families of colored people—escaped slaves—who own a tract of nine thousand acres of land. The whole amount of land in Canada West owned by the fugitives is stated to be twenty-five thousand acres.—Cincinnati to be twenty-five thousand acres. - Cincinna

THE COAL FIELDS OF AMERICA.-Hitch-

The Coal Fields of America.—Hitch-cock's Elementary Geology gives the area of the coal fields of America as follows:

"The great Apalachian coal field, extending from New York to Alabama, covers nearly 100,000 square miles; the Indiana field 35 000. Add to these fields, Michigan, Rhode Island, Missouri, Iowa, and Virginia, and we shall have a surface more than twenty-seven times as large as Massachusetts. If we suppose the average thickness of all the beds over this surface to be only twenty-five feet, then the whole amount of coal in solid measure, in this country, would not be far from 1,100 cubic miles. Estimating the yearly consumption of coal in this country to be 7,000,000 tone, this immense body of fuel would keep the hearths bright and the furnaces a-glow for more than a million of years."

It is stated that Mr. George Law is rapidly disposing of the two hundred thousand gune he some years since purchased of the Government, and is getting for them quadruple the sum he paid for them. The demand from abroad for American manufactured muskets and other fire-arms is represented to be far

THE NEBRASKA BILL IN NEW YORK .- The The Nebraska Bill in New York.—The Evening Post says: "One of the best tests of public opinion in this metropolis is the voice of the Sunday press. We have Sunday papers of every shade of opinion, Whig, Hard, Soft sporting papers, &c.; and without exception they oppose the bill of Mr. Douglas. The Sunday Atlas, it is true, is not so earnest in its opposition as it was at first—possibly its article of the 12th inst. may be regarded as friendly to the bill. But the Sunday Courier, Mercury, Times, and Dispatch, all take strong ground against the bill, and there are not two harder' papers in the State than the Mercury and Times."

scarce of silver change, that storekeepers import is from the United States, and the Bank of British America has issued five and ten shilling bills. The whole amount of revenue collected in New Brunswick, during the year 1853, was about \$920,000, of which over \$700,000 was received at the port of St. John.

OF THE STEAMER SAN FRANCISCO'S PRESENT gers who were rescued by the ship Antarctic lifty died on the voyage to England.

A Massachusetts State Convention has been called at Faneuil Hall, Boston, on the 16th of February, for the purpose of protesting against the Nebraska measure.

The distance from the Mississippi to the Pacific by the Northern (Gov. Stevens's) route, is eighteen hundred miles. By the Southern, it is upwards of 2,500

The administrators of a Mr. McCloekey, of Pittsburgh, who was killed in March last by a collision, while on a car of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, have recovered \$4,500 damages from the road.

The La Belle Iron Works, Wheeling, are again fully in operation.

A young man was beaten to death by rowdies, at the railroad depot at Savannah, Georgia, on the 6th instant.

The cotton factory at Memphis, Tennessee, was recently sold by the sheriff, for \$35,000. It originally cost over \$100,000.

Mrs. Partington says that flour rises so fast there isn't the least need of "emptings" is making bread.

Eggs are selling at 42 cents a dozen in Bo During the past year, \$18,069 were expended in the construction of the Washington Monument at Richmond, Va.

The Humane Magnanimity Society of Troy offers a reward of \$50 for the best method of preventing sea sickness on the canal. Jacobs recommends walking on the towpath.

The French papers state that a zinc ship recently built at Nantes, has made a trial trip and proved an excellent sea boat. She is quite strong, and the metal did not affect her compass.